

April 4, 2000

Memorandum

To: Regional Directors, HFC Director, Superintendents

From: Visiting Chief Social Scientist, WASO

Subject: Requests for Visitor Services Project Studies in FY2001
Reply due to Regions: April 21, 2000
Reply due to WASO: April 28, 2000

Since 1982, the Visitor Services Project (VSP) has conducted over 115 in-depth visitor studies in units of the National Park System. These studies continue to provide in-depth information for parks valuable in planning, operations and better meeting visitors' needs. The enclosed brochure describes the VSP, including the nomination procedure. The VSP information and nomination form can also be accessed on the following Social Science Program web site: <http://www.nps.gov/socialscience/waso/products.htm>

There are opportunities for 8 park studies during FY2001. Nominations for FY2001 visitor studies should be submitted to the regional VSP points-of-contact listed below by April 21, 2000. A copy of the nomination form is attached. Each regional VSP point-of-contact will forward the top five prioritized nominations to the attention of Gary Machlis, Visiting Chief Social Scientist, by April 28, 2000.

Regional points-of-contact for VSP nomination process are:

Alaska Region: Diane Jung	Northeast Region: Russ Smith
Pacific West Region: Peggy Dolinich	National Capital Region: Ron Mack
Intermountain Region: Neil DeJong	Midwest Region: Warren Bielenberg
Southeast Region: Priscilla Nalls	

The VSP Advisory Committee will meet in Washington, D.C. on May 1, 2000 to review each region's nominations. Their recommendations will be sent to Mike Soukup, Associate Director of Natural Resource Stewardship and Science, for final approval. Nominated parks will then be notified of their priority for a FY2001 visitor study.

Thank you for your continued support and interest in this valuable program.

Gary Machlis

Attachments: Visitor Study Nomination Form
VSP Brochure

Visitor Services Project
Visitor Study Nomination Form--FY2001

(Please see attached VSP Brochure)

Park unit:_____

Mailing address:_____

Street address:_____

Key contact person and title:_____

Commercial phone:_____e:mail address:_____

FAX:_____

1. When was the last visitor study done at the park?

2. Why does the park need a visitor study?

3. How will the study results be used?

4. VSP studies are conducted during a one week sampling period and can best provide data on visitors during a particular season. Only one season can be selected in 2000-2001. Below, please specify when you would prefer that the study be conducted.

a) FIRST CHOICE (Circle the one season that is the first preference):

Fall 2000
(Sept./Oct./Nov.)

Winter 2001
(Dec./Jan./Feb.)

Spring 2001
(March/April/May)

Summer 2001
(June/July/Aug.)

b) ALTERNATE (Circle the one alternate season that is the second preference):

Fall 2000
(Sept./Oct./Nov.)

Winter 2001
(Dec./Jan./Feb.)

Spring 2001
(March/April/May)

Summer 2001
(June/July/Aug.)

5. In FY00, parks paid between \$12,500 and \$25,000 (average cost was \$16,500) for a VSP study. Cost depends upon fieldwork, travel and survey expenses.

How will your park fund the study? **Please list all funding sources that will be used. If selected, the park will need to authorize funding for the VSP, either in FY01 (if convenient), or soon after FY02 begins.**

Superintendent's signature

Date

Superintendent s name (printed)_____

If you have questions, please contact Margaret Littlejohn, VSP Coordinator,
phone: (208) 885-7863, FAX: 208-885-4261, or on cc:Mail. or e:mail: littlej@uidaho.edu

DUE DATE to Regions: April 21, 2000

PARK STAFFS SEND NOMINATIONS TO: Appropriate Regional VSP Points-of-Contact

Alaska Region: Diane Jung

Pacific West Region: Peggy Dolinich

Intermountain Region: Neil DeJong

Southeast Region: Priscilla Nalls

Northeast Region: Russ Smith

National Capital Region: Ron Mack

Midwest Region: Warren Bielenberg

DUE DATE to WASO: April 28, 2000

REGIONS SEND NOMINATIONS TO: Gary Machlis, Visiting Chief Social Scientist
Main Interior Building., Room 3127
1849 C. Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240
Phone: 202-208-5391 FAX: 202-208-4620